ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A system and method for controlling a night vision system in an automobile is disclosed. Disclosed is a vehicle night vision camera comprising an optical lens and a low light CCD image sensor array which converts an image received by the optical lens into an electronic signal. A signal processor receives the electronic signal and is capable of automatically controlling a gain of the electronic signal. A timing controller automatically controls an electronic iris size of the CCD image sensor array. A display which converts the electronic signal into a image on the display. Finally, a luminance threshold detector determines the luminance of the electronic signal and generates a luminance threshold detector output signal for enabling or disabling the automatic gain control of the electronic signal and the automatic electronic iris size of the CCD image sensor array.